

# Wisconsin Food Stamp Program At a Glance

All data is for (or as of) the month of June, 2003<sup>1</sup>

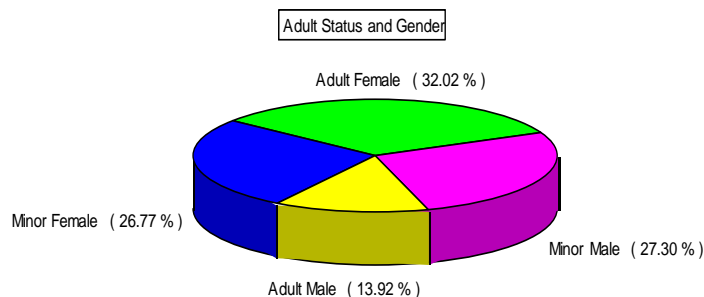
## Who gets food stamps in Wisconsin?

- **Poverty:** 5.6% of the 5.4 million people in Wisconsin receive FS.<sup>2</sup> On average from 1998 - 2000, 8.8% of the state population was at or below the federal poverty rate.<sup>3</sup>

- **Assistance Groups**

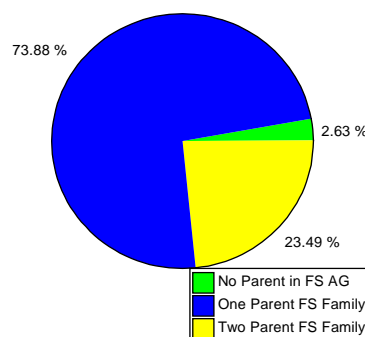
**(AGs)/Individuals:** 122,562

Assistance groups are made up of 303,674 individuals. The number of AGs continues to increase at a steady rate. There are an average of 2.5 people in an AG.



- **Gender:** 59% of the recipients are female and 41% are male.
- **Adults/Minors:** 46% are adults while 54% are minors. 60% of AG's have minors in them.

- **Minors and Their Parents:** Of the AGs that contain minors, 73.9% have one parent in the AG, 23.5% have two parents, and 2.6% have no parents in the household. "Parent" is defined as a biological or adoptive parent.



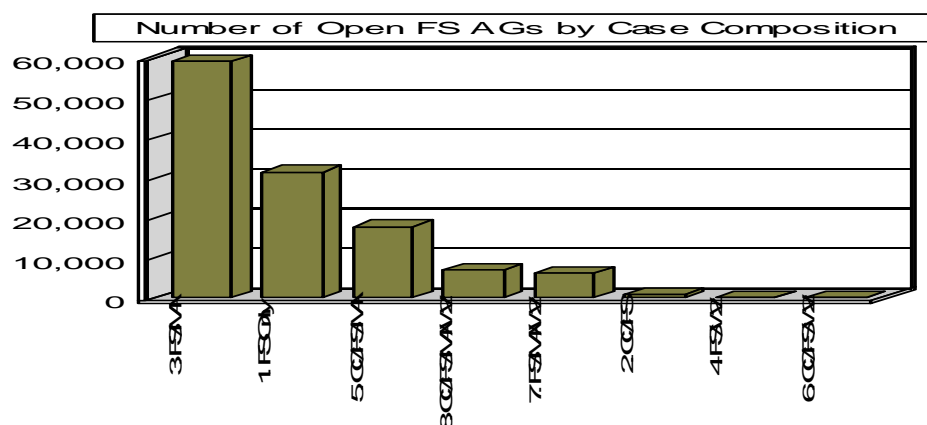
- **Parents That Are Minors:** 1,046 minors in 1,022 FS AGs are parents. That's 1/3 of 1 percent of the individuals that receive FS.

<sup>1</sup> Source: DWD/DWS FS Data Warehouse

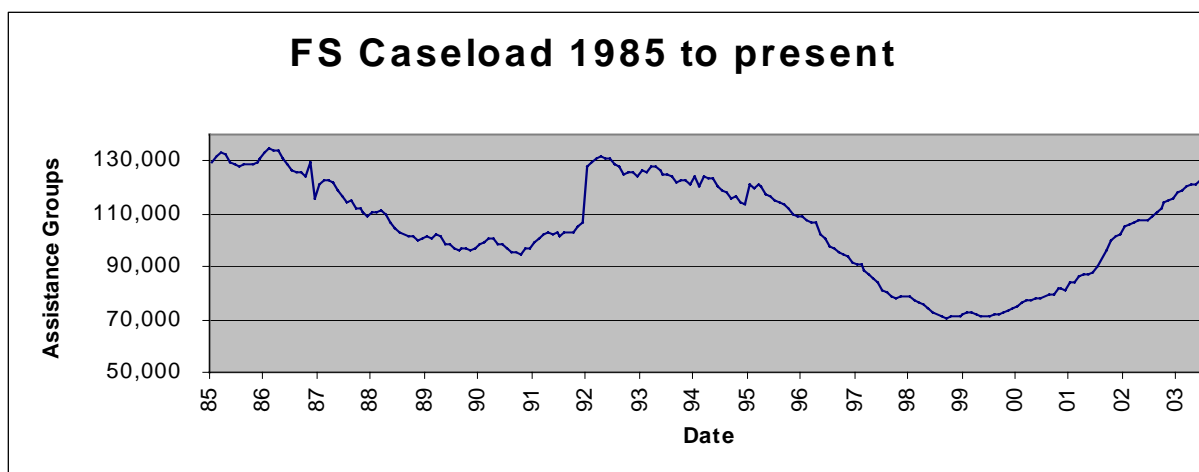
<sup>2</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau, <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/55000.html>

<sup>3</sup> Source: U. S. Census Bureau <http://www.census.gov/prod/2001pubs/p60-214.pdf>

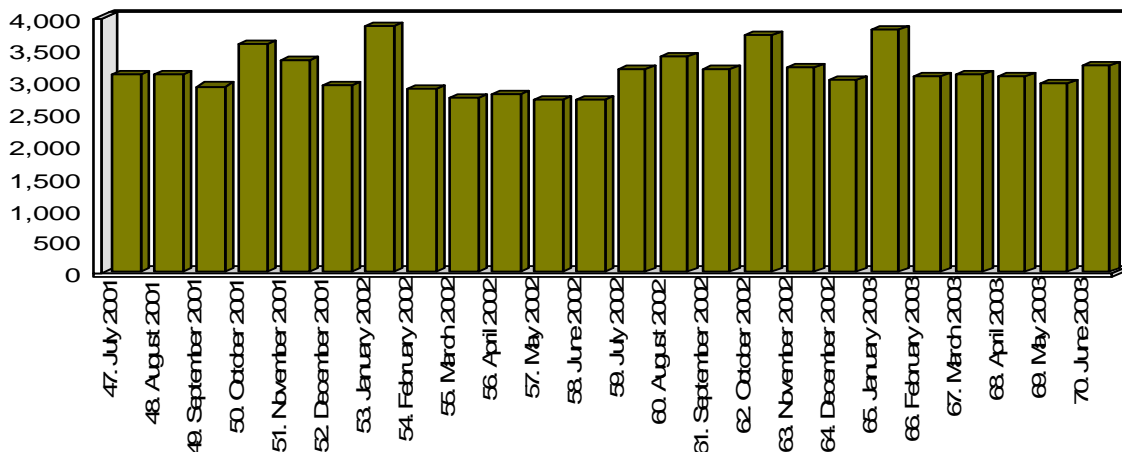
- **Case Composition:** The graph shows other types of CARES issued assistance that a FS AG receives.



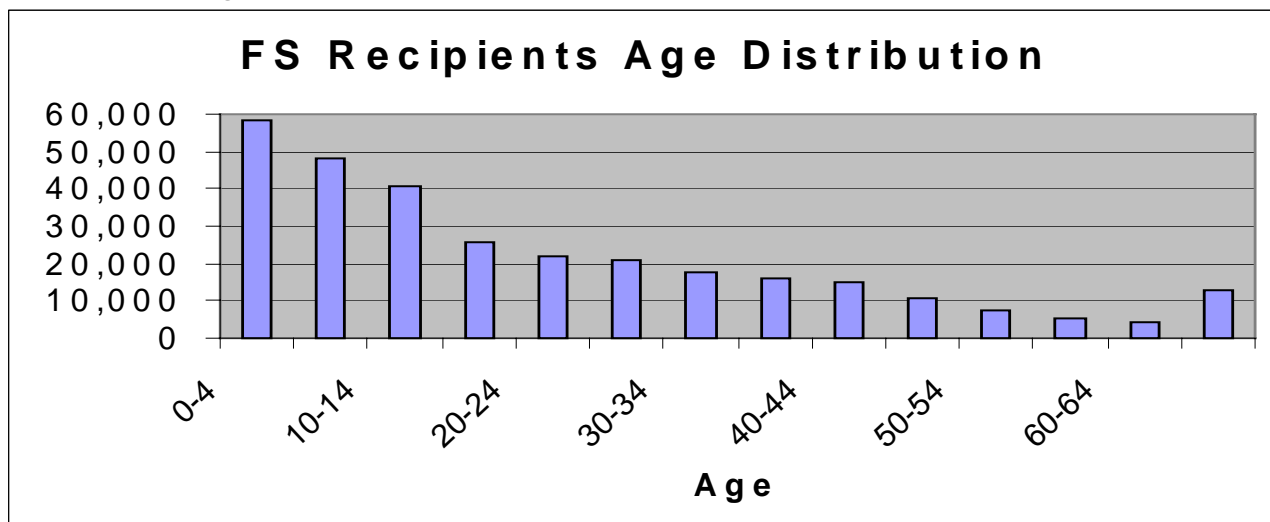
- **Historical Caseload Trend:** The statewide caseload had been increasing at a steady rate since September of 1999.



- **First Time FS AG's:** This chart shows the number of first-time FS assistance groups over the last 2 years. Only AGs that have never received FS in Wisconsin before the month shown appear in this chart. For June 2003, 3,242 FS AGs received FS for the first time.

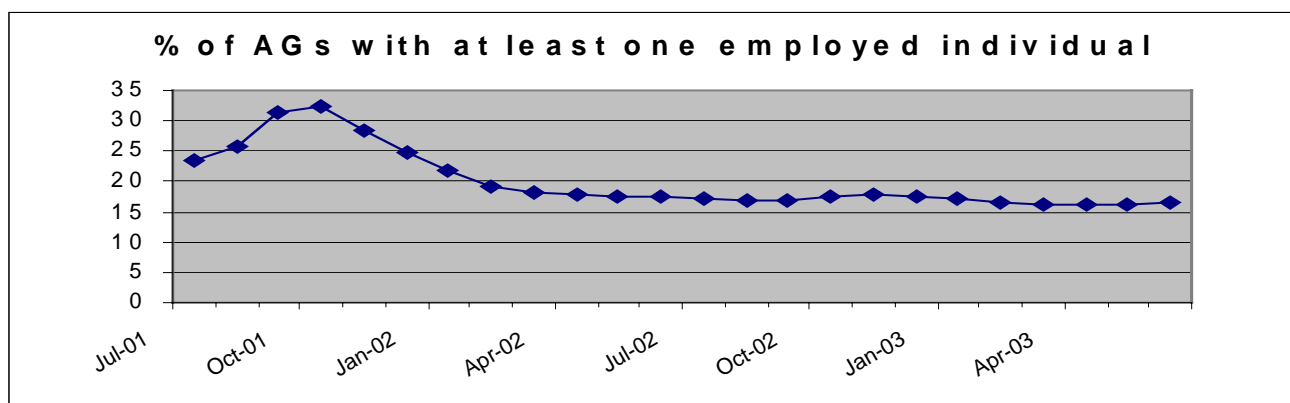


- **Age Distribution:** The chart below shows the number of FS recipients by age, in ranges of 5 years. The largest age group is comprised of children under age 4.



- **Elderly/Disabled:** 16.6% of FS recipients are either elderly, blind, or disabled. 40.6% of AGs contain at least one individual that is either elderly, blind, or disabled.

- **Work/Earnings:** 16.4% of the AGs have at least one person working. This is a increase of .1% from last month. The average monthly earned income of those AGs' is \$969, very slight increase from last month.<sup>4</sup> 33.5% of adult FS recipients are employed, slightly more than last month. Currently, the unemployment rate in Wisconsin is 5.6%, up one tenth of a percent from last month.<sup>5</sup>



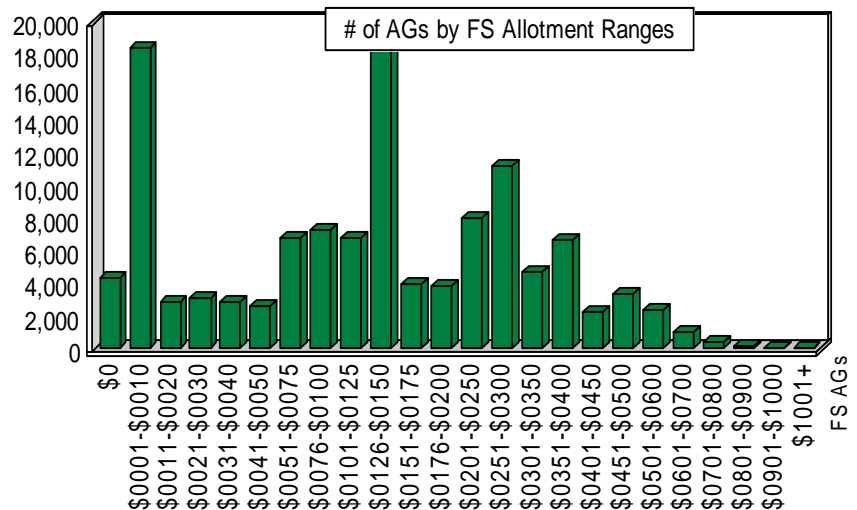
- **Working Families:** A "working family" is defined as a FS AG that contains at least one minor, at least one parent of a minor, and at least one employed recipient. This is an attempt to explore those FS recipients that have children and are working. Working families make up 27.9% of the statewide FS AGs, average a 3.7 persons per AG, and average \$1,149 in earned income per month. Other stats are available below.

| Parent in FS AG      | FS AGs        | Unduplicated FS Recipients | AG Earned Income Amt   | Avg. Earned Income per AG | AG Unearned Income Amt | Avg. Unearned Income per AG | FS Allotment Amt - FTM | Avg. Allotment per AG |
|----------------------|---------------|----------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| One Parent FS Family | 24,316        | 77,937                     | \$26,229,709.35        | \$1,078.70                | \$4,889,793.95         | \$201.09                    | \$4,050,726.00         | \$166.59              |
| Two Parent FS Family | 9,996         | 47,936                     | \$13,208,335.23        | \$1,321.36                | \$2,112,161.57         | \$211.30                    | \$2,527,485.00         | \$252.85              |
| <b>Sum:</b>          | <b>34,312</b> | <b>125,873</b>             | <b>\$39,438,044.58</b> |                           | <b>\$7,001,955.52</b>  | <b>Sum:</b>                 | <b>\$6,578,211.00</b>  |                       |

<sup>4</sup> This statistic contains prospective income for cases that may have caused the case to close at the end of the report month. Therefore, the income reported here was not necessarily the income used to calculate eligibility for the allotment amount.

<sup>5</sup> Source: DWD Labor Market Information at [http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/lmi/employ\\_civilianlaborForce.htm](http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/lmi/employ_civilianlaborForce.htm)

- Allotments:** A total of \$20.08 million in food stamp benefits were allotted for the month. The average allotment amount per AG is \$164. The average allotment for AGs that contain an elderly, blind, or disabled member remains at \$100. However, 34% of the EBD caseload only receives between \$0 and \$10 in allotments and 14% of the entire case load. Allotments have increased an 7% in the last year.



- Statewide FS Allotments:** The graph below shows the total dollars in FS allotments spent on all FS AGs statewide for the past two years. The total has remained above \$20 million for the last two months.

